

Assemblymember Christine Kehoe Brings You News From Sacramento

April 15, 2002

Bills Begin to Make Progress

I've had a busy few weeks in Sacramento. Three of my bills passed their first committee hearings and are rapidly moving through the legislative cycle. Here's a roundup of the bills and what they do:

Making our Ports Safer

Since September 11th, our full attention has been directed towards improving security. The FAA protects our airports and the U.S. Coast Guard protects our coasts, but no federal requirements exist to provide for the security infrastructure needs at our ports. The Port Protection Act, legislation to approve \$350 million in bond proceeds for enhanced security at California's ports, gained support from the Assembly's Committee on Transportation. If passed, the Port Protection Act (AB 1782) will appear on the November ballot for voter approval.

Help for the Disabled

Under existing law, disabled drivers have to move their cars during designated street sweeping times or are issued a ticket. In dense urban areas it means that a disabled driver must sometimes move his or her car several blocks from home, only to go back two hours later and move the car back. The Transportation Committee voted in favor of Assembly Bill 1800, a disability parking rights bill which would allow disabled drivers the right to park in street sweeping zones without having to move their cars. AB 1800 will next be considered on the Assembly Floor.

Streetlights that Conserve Energy

The energy crisis demonstrated the need to explore alternative energy sources. Because of California's favorable climate, solar power could be one of our most reliable sources. The Assembly Committee on Utilities and Commerce voted unanimously to pass my Assembly Bill 2944, the San Diego Solar Streetlights Pilot Program. This program facilitates solar use by having local utilities and private companies work with the City of San Diego to provide solar powered streetlights in a four-to-six block radius using the most efficient technology available. This program allows the Energy Commission to look at our results and then share these findings with the rest of the state. AB 2944 passed the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources on Monday, April 15th, 2002.

Visit Me In April

Not only is April proving to be an eventful month at the Capitol, but there's a lot to do in San Diego as well. Here's where you can find me over the next few weeks:

Earth Day – Sunday, April 21st, All day event - I am hosting a booth all day at Balboa Park's annual EarthFair. At 4 p.m. join me at the Pierson Ford booth to draw the winner of a free electric car! EarthFair goes from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Health Care Town Hall Meeting – Friday, April 26th, 9-11 a.m. - Join me at my healthcare town hall meeting in the Uptown District Shopping Center at the Joyce Beers Community Center, 1230 Cleveland Avenue (between Terra and Aladdin restaurants).

"Right to Organize" Labor Rally – Saturday, April 27th, 9:30-11:30 a.m. - I'll be speaking at the "Right to Organize" hearing, hosted by the Labor Council. 12th floor of City Hall, 202 C Street.

Linda Vista Multi-Cultural Fair – Saturday, April 27th, All day event - Come by and visit my booth. The Fair takes place on 1600 block of Linda Vista Rd., between Comstock and Ulric St., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Navajo Community SpringFest – Saturday, April 27th, All day event – I'm also hosting a booth at this event. SpringFest takes place on 1600 block of Linda Vista Rd., between Comstock and Ulric St., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.